

REMARKS

Introduction

Applicant thanks Examiner Nguyen for the courtesies extended in the personal interview of March 8, 2007.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 18-20 and 23-41 are pending in this application. Claims 40 and 41 have been added. In view of the interview discussion and the comments that follow, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 18-20 and 23-41 are now in condition for allowance.

Personal Interview

In the interview conducted on March 8, 2007, Applicant and the Examiner agreed that the bond strength 2.0 N/mm^2 , as recited in both independent claims 18 and 33, is not an obvious design choice, as previously alleged in the Final Office Action of January 4, 2007. Accordingly, the rejection applied by the Examiner in the Final Office Action of January 4, 2007 is no longer applicable against the pending claims.

Furthermore, none of the prior art of record discloses, teaches, or suggests "at least one molded door skin has a bond strength of at least about 2.0 N/mm^2 ," as recited in independent claim 18 of Applicant's invention. Likewise, none of the prior art of record discloses, teaches, or suggests "a first reformed molded wood composite having ... a bond strength of at least about 2.0 N/mm^2 ; and...a second reformed molded wood composite having ...a bond strength of at least about 2.0 N/mm^2 , as recited in independent claim 33 of Applicant's invention. In view of the fact that these features are not obvious from the references previously relied on by the Examiner, Applicant submits that independent claims 18 and 33 are presently allowable over the prior art of record.

Regarding claims 19, 20, 23-32, and 34-41, it is respectfully submitted that for at least the reason that claims 19, 20, 23-32, and 34-41 depend from one of the allowable independent claims 18 and 33, and therefore contain each of the features as presently recited in these claims, claims 19, 20, 23-32, and 34-41 are therefore also patentable over the references previously relied on by the Examiner.

New Claims

New claims 40 and 41 have been added to recite that the bond strength comprises "internal bond strength." This feature is clearly supported by Applicant's disclosure at, for example, page 10, lines 11-16 of Applicant's specification. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that these claims do not present new matter and are allowable for the same reasons set forth above.

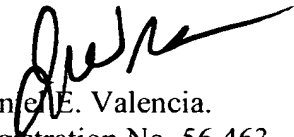
Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, there being no other objections or rejections, this application is in condition for allowance, and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

A \$100 fee for additional claims has been incurred by this amendment. If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account debit Account 50-0548.

Respectfully submitted,



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